THE NINTH DAY.

Saturday, the 19th March, 1932.

The Assembly met again at 11-30 A. M., the Dewan presiding.

152. Needs of the Kunnatnad taluk.

MR. K. P. AUGUSTINE (*Kunnatnad taluk, Group II*) said at the outset that the people hoped that the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly would be reconstituted at no distant future on a statutory basis as promised by His Highness the Maha Raja.

Passing on to his subject, the member said that the Kanni crop in his taluk was a failure because of the heavy floods which stayed on for nearly a month. The next crop, *i. e.* the Makaram crop, too, was not successful because of drought. He therefore requested that the tax due for the Kanni crop at least might be remitted.

The toddy and arrack contractors were put to heavy loss because of the prevailing economic depression and the temperance movement. The Government were convinced of this loss sustained by the contractors and granted a rebate of 30 per cent. which would hardly compensate for the losses sustained in 1107. The member therefore requested that 50 per cent. of the *kist* due for 1107 might be remitted.

He next spoke against the abolition of the Division First Class Magistrate's Court at Alwaye, which he understood had been recommended by the Retrenchment Committee. Being a frontier taluk, Kunnatnad was badly in need of a First Class Magistrate and since the opening of that Court at Alwaye, the crimes, especially timber theft cases, were declining. It was not advisable to abolish the court simply for the sake of retrenchment. But he suggested that the office of the Divisional Treasury Officer, Kottayam, might be abolished and some expenditure saved.

The Parur District Court should be shifted to Alwaye. The court was for a long time located at Alwaye, the centre of the District and more accessible from all parts of it than Parur which was situated at one end of the District. The only possible objection to the proposed removal was perhaps the want of a proper building at Alwaye. This difficulty could be solved by constructing a new building at Alwaye with the funds provided for the Assistant Excise Commissioner's Office at Parur and locating that office in the District Court building.

Another need was the construction of a new and convenient waiting shed for the use of the clients in the premises of the Munsiff's Court, Perumbavur, in place of the existing dilapidated shed.

The Municipal Council, Alwaye, had more than once decided to discontinue the Municipal girls' school there. The Municipality could not run the school for want of funds and the school itself was insufficient to meet the growing needs of female education at Alwaye. It was

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therefore advisable to leave the responsibility of running a school to private management. The local Convent had already put up a building on the strength of the resolutions passed by the Municipal Council. The Municipal school should therefore be discontinued and the school building utilised for a *satram* which was a desideratum.

An industrial school was a very desirable institute at Alwaye and could be attached to the local Agricultural School.

An Ayurvedic College should also be opened in a convenient centre of the taluk.

The Alwaye traders formed a fair percentage of the voters of the Trading constituency for the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, but they were given no representation. Alwaye was developing as a commercial centre because of its proximity to the Cochin harbour and its traders who were in no way less important than other traders should be given a seat in the Assembly.

A lady doctor and a few nurses were necessary in the Alwaye District Hospital. An Ayurveda Hospital there and a dispensary at Mazhuvannur were also absolutely necessary and should be opened.

A flight of granite steps at the market landing was absolutely necessary in order to facilitate loading and unloading of goods. The existing mud embankments were a source of trouble and inconvenience to the traders.

The following new roads should be opened :—

(i) a road from Kumarapuram market to Tammanam on the Alwaye-Ernakulam road about six miles in length : and

(ii) a road from the main gate of Alwaye District Hospital southward up to the neighbourhood of the vernacular middle school and the Pakuthi Cutcherry on the Edapalli-Trikkakara road, about seven miles in length.

The following village roads should be converted into cart roads:—

(i) the road from Mannuparambu at the 137th miles of the M. C. road southward up to Airapuram, about three miles in length, and

(ii) the road from Pulluvazhi at the 14th miles of the M. C. road southward to Airapuram, about 2 miles in length.

A branch of the Land Mortgage Bank should be opened at Alwaye in order to benefit the ryots there.

Lastly, a Police outpost should be opened at Kumarapuram.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Augustine, the question of some remission of tax for the Kanni crop will be considered.

The reduction of *kist* to the abkari contractors is receiving attention.

The abolition of the Division First Class Magistrate's Court at Alwaye is under consideration.

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The shifting of the Parur District Court must wait till the report of the Law's Delays Commission has been received.

It is reported that a new waiting shed is necessary in the Munsiff's Court at Perumbavur, and that matter will be taken up.

Permission has been granted by the Director of Public Instruction to the Convent authorities to run a complete English middle school for girls.

Enquiries show that an Ayurveda College is not necessary at Alwaye.

In regard to the question of further representation of the mercantile and trading classes in the Assembly, there are already seven members in the Assembly elected by the mercantile and trading classes; but the whole question will come up for consideration with the reform of the Assembly.

Your other suggestions under medical aid must wait until funds are available.

The construction of a flight of granite steps at the market landing should be taken up and financed by the Municipal Council.

The opening and conversion of the roads you mentioned will be placed before the District Road Board.

Branches of the Land Mortgage Bank will be opened in different places outside Trivandrum when we see how business develops and the Bank works.

As Kumarapuram is only eight miles from the Charging Station at Perumbavur, an outpost there is not necessary.

153. Needs of the Kammalas.

MR. T. P. KRISHNANUNNI ASARI (*Nominated*) spoke about the needs of the Kammalas. The Kammalas were very backward in education, poor and landless. While other communities such as the Muslim community had been granted fee concessions in schools and colleges, it was regrettable that the Kammalas who were numerically very small were denied this concession. English education had become indispensable for higher studies of even such technical subjects as carpentry which was their hereditary profession. The member therefore requested that students of this community be given fee concessions in schools and colleges.

The Kammala community was not adequately represented in the public service. There were only very few members of the community who were qualified for service and some of them had been entertained in the several departments. But they were not given proper encouragement. There were others without employment. More members of the community should be entertained in service and the claims of the community should not be ignored in formulating any scheme for communal representation in the public service.

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